

Dear Readers,

CIGRE has a new President. Dr Robert STEPHEN, Chairman of the National Committee of South Africa, has been elected President of CIGRE by the Administrative Council during the Session in Paris on 23rd August. Robert STEPHEN has a long CIGRE record as convener of Working Groups, Special Reporter and Chairman of Study Committee B2 (Overhead lines). He is CIGRE' s first President from Africa.

Michel AUGONNET from France, has been elected Treasurer of CIGRE, and Mark WALDRON has been confirmed as Technical Council Chairman for another two year term.

I take the opportunity of this editorial message to congratulate the new CIGRE Officers, and to thank the outgoing President and Treasurer, Klaus FRÖHLICH and Richard BEVAN respectively, for their remarkable contributions to the development and functioning of CIGRE.

The General Assembly also met during the Session in Paris, and approved the proposed modifications of the Statutes of the Association, aiming at clarifying the respective roles of the governing bodies of CIGRE: the General Assembly, the Administrative Council, the Steering Committee and the Technical Council, renamed on this occasion.

The Paris Session was very successful with 3290 delegates from 93 countries, which broke the record of the 2014 Session (3235).

The keynote speaker of the opening ceremony on Sunday was Claudio FACCHIN, President Power Grids division, ABB, who presented during 40 minutes his vision of the big shift in power and of his perception of how the power systems of the future could be shaped.

After his speech Klaus FRÖHLICH handed the distinctions to the new Honorary Members (10), CIGRE Fellows (6) and the CIGRE Medal to Dr Narain G. HINGORANI from the United States of America, in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the technical and administrative activities of CIGRE.

Among the new initiatives tested during this Session, was the increased number of Session papers from 315 in 2014 to 550 in 2016, with the related poster sessions, the organisation of tutorials on Monday afternoon, and the introduction of new online solution to support the spontaneous contributions during the Group Discussion Meetings.

The opening panel, on Monday morning was on the global perspective of distributed generation impact on the bulk connected network, will remain in the memory of the audience that was invited to also participate in the musical interludes between the technical presentations.

With 242 exhibitors, the technical exhibition was very successful and attended by more than 8000 visitors and delegates.

As in 2014, more than 200 Study Committee and Working Group meetings took place during the Session.

The Session program also included a forum of CIGRE Women in Engineering, a forum of National Committees, and last but not least a memorable cocktail party at La Cité de la Mode et du Design.

If you are one of the Session delegates, please do not forget to give your opinion with the link you received, before 9th September.

We hope to see you in 2018.

Philippe ADAM

Secretary General of CIGRE